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*Admitted only in Maryland *Admitted only in Virginia •Practice Limited to Federal Agencies

April 2, 2004

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Mail Stop RCE

Examiner: DePumpo, Daniel G.

Confirmation No.: 1901

Art Unit 3611

Commissioner for Patents PO Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Re:

U.S. Utility Patent Application

Application No. 09/474,127; Filed: December 29, 1999

For: **Axle Driving Apparatus** Inventors: OKADA et al.

Our Ref: 0666.023000E/TGD/ALF

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for appropriate action are the following documents:

- 1. Fee Transmittal (Form PTO/SB/17);
- 2. Petition for Extension of Time Under 37 C.F.R. 1.136(a)(1);
- 3. Continued Examination (RCE) Request for Transmittal (Form PTO/SB/30);
- 4. One (1) return postcard; and
- 5. PTO-2038 Credit Card Payment Form in the amount of \$880.00 to cover:

\$770.00 for the filing fee of the RCE; and \$110.00 for a one (1) month extension of time for large entity.

It is respectfully requested that the attached postcard be stamped with the date of filing of these documents, and that it be returned to our courier. In the event that extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned.

Sterne, Kessler, Goldstein & Fox PLLC. : 1100 New York Avenue, NW : Washington, DC 20005 : 202.371.2600 f 202.371.2540 : www.skgf.com

Commissioner for Patents April 2, 2004 Page 2

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.

Albert L. Ferro

Attorney for Applicants Registration No. 44,679

ALF/awt Enclosures

247144_1.DOC

PTO/SB/17 (10-03)
Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0032
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number

| FEE | TR | AN | SM | IT' | TAL |
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| | for | FY | 200 | 04 | |

Effective 10/01/2003, Patent fees are subject to annual revision.

Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27

TOTAL AMOUNT OF PAYMENT

| Complete if Known | | | | | | |
|----------------------|----------------------|--|--|--|--|--|
| Application Number | 09/474,127 | | | | | |
| Filing Date | December 29, 1999 | | | | | |
| First Named Inventor | Hideaki OKADA | | | | | |
| Examiner Name | DePumpo, Daniel G. | | | | | |
| Art Unit | 3611 | | | | | |
| Attorney Docket No. | 0666.023000E/TGD/ALF | | | | | |

| METHOD OF PAYMENT (check all that apply) | FEE CALCULATION (continued) | | | | | |
|---|-----------------------------|---------------------|------|-------------|---|----------|
| Check X Credit card Money X Other** None | 3. ADDITIONAL FEES | | | | | |
| **Charge any deficiencies or credit any overpayments in | Large Entity Small Entity | | | | | |
| Deposit Account: the fees to Deposit Acci. No. 19-0036. Deposit | Fee Code | | | Fee (\$) | Fee Description | |
| Account 19-0036 | 1051 | 130 | 2051 | 65 | Surcharge - late filing fee or oath | Fee Paid |
| Deposit Account Sterne Kessler, Goldstein & Fox P.L.L.C. | | 50 | 2052 | 25 | Surcharge - late provisional filing fee or cover sheet | |
| Name The Director is authorized to: (check all that apply) | | 130 | 1053 | 130 | Non-English specification | |
| Charge fee(s) indicated below Credit any overpayments | | 2,520 | 1812 | 2,520 | For filing a request for ex parte reexamination | |
| Charge any additional fee(s) or any underpayment of fee(s) | | 920* | 1804 | 920* | Requesting publication of SIR prior to Examiner action | |
| Charge fee(s) indicated below, except for the filing fee | 1805 | 1,840* | 1805 | 1,840* | Requesting publication of SIR after | |
| to the above-identified deposit account. | 1251 | 440 | 0054 | | Examiner action | 110.00 |
| FEE CALCULATION | | 110 | 2251 | 55 | Extension for reply within first month Extension for reply within second month | 170,00 |
| 1. BASIC FILING FEE | 1252 | 420 | 2252 | 210 | • • | |
| Large Entity Small Entity Fee Fee Fee Fee Description Fee Paid | 1253 | 950 | 2253 | | Extension for reply within third month | |
| Code (\$) Code (\$) | i | 1,480 | 2254 | 740 | | |
| 1001 770 2001 385 Utility filing fee | 1255 | 2,010 | 2255 | 1,005 | Extension for reply within fifth month | |
| 1002 340 2002 170 Design filing fee | 1401 | 330 | 2401 | 165 | Notice of Appeal | |
| 1003 530 2003 265 Plant filing fee | 1402 | 330 | 2402 | 165 | Filing a brief in support of an appeal | |
| 1004 770 2004 385 Reissue filing fee | 1403 | 290 | 2403 | 145 | Request for oral hearing | |
| 1005 160 2005 80 Provisional filing fee | 1451 | 1,510 | 1451 | 1,510 | Petition to institute a public use proceeding | |
| SUBTOTAL (1) (\$) 0.00 | 1452 | 110 | 2452 | 55 | Petition to revive - unavoidable | |
| (1) | | 1,330 | 2453 | 665 | Petition to revive - unintentional | |
| 2. EXTRA CLAIM FEES FOR UTILITY AND REISSUE | | 1,330 | 2501 | 665 | Utility issue fee (or reissue) | <u> </u> |
| Extra Claims below Fee Paid | 1502 | 480 | 2502 | 240 | Design issue fee | |
| Independent = 20 = = = = = = = = = = = = = = = = = | 1503 | 640 | 2503 | 320 | Plant issue fee | |
| Claims - 3 **= X = X Multiple Dependent | 1460 | 130 | 1460 | 130 | Petitions to the Commissioner | <u> </u> |
| | | 50 | 1807 | 50 | Processing fee under 37 CFR 1.17(q) | |
| Large Entity Small Entity Fee Fee Fee Fee Fee Description | 1806 | 180 | 1806 | 180 | Submission of Information Disclosure Stmt | |
| Code (\$) Code (\$) | 8021 | 40 | 8021 | 40 | Recording each patent assignment per property (times number of properties) | |
| 1202 18 2202 9 Claims in excess of 20 1201 86 2201 43 Independent claims in excess of 3 | 1809 | 770 | 2809 | 385 | Filing a submission after final rejection (37 CFR 1.129(a)) | |
| 1203 290 2203 145 Multiple dependent claim, if not paid | 1810 | 770 | 2810 | 385 | For each additional invention to be examined (37 CFR 1.129(b)) | |
| 1204 86 2204 43 ** Reissue independent claims over original patent | 1801 | 770 | 2801 | 385 | , | 770.00 |
| 1205 18 2205 9 ** Reissue claims in excess of 20 and over original patent | 1802 | 900 | 1802 | 900 | , , , | |
| · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · | Other | Other fee (specify) | | | | |
| SUBTOTAL (2) (\$) 0.00 **or number previously paid, if greater; For Reissues, see above | | | | Filing F | ee Paid SUBTOTAL (3) | 880.00 |

SUBMITTED BY (Complete (if applicable)) Registration No. Name (Print/Type) Telephone (202) 371-2600 44.679 (Attornev/Agent) Signature April 2, 2004

WARNING. Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.17 and 1.27. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.